

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 CIEP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /095 W

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R 211728Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7454

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS LONDON 00915

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UK, EEC

SUBJECT: WILSON WANTS DECISION ON EC MEMBERSHIP BY SUM-
MER

1. YESTERDAY (JANUARY 20), IN A SPEECH AT A NEWSPAPER
CONFERENCE LUNCH, PRIME MINISTER WILSON LIFTED THE VEIL A
LITTLE FURTHER ON THE LIKELY SCENARIO FOR THE FORTHCOMING
REFERENDUM ON EC MEMBERSHIP. HE INDICATED THAT HE EX-
PECTS RENEGOTIATION TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE EASTER (PRESUM-
ABLY AT THE NEXT EC SUMMIT, MARCH 10-11), AND A REFEREN-
DUM TO BE HELD BEFORE SUMMER VACATIONS BEGIN.

2. HE SAID THE CABINET WOULD SOON BE CONSIDERING THE
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GROUND RULES FOR THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN. WITHOUT COM-

MITTING THE GOVERNMENT, HE REITERATED HIS OWN PREFERENCE FOR POSING THE QUESTION IN A CLEAR "IN OR OUT?" WAY. HE ALSO HINTED BROADLY THAT HE MIGHT SUSPEND THE CABINET'S CUSTOMARY COLLECTIVE RESPONSIBILITY ON THIS ISSUE, AND PERMIT INDIVIDUAL MINISTERS TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT'S RECOMMENDATION WITHOUT HAVING TO RESIGN THEIR POSTS.

3. THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE LABOR PARTY MEETS JANUARY 22 TO CONSIDER A PAPER SPELLING OUT ITS OWN RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE REFERENDUM CAMPAIGN.

SPIERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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05 JUL 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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